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MAP NOTICES.

BY

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Since our last notice, the U. S. Geological Survey has issued twelve sheets of the Topographic Map of the United States, scattered over various parts of the country.

Keene sheet represents an area of some 220 square miles, in southern New Hampshire, upon a scale of 1:62,500, with a contour interval of 20 feet. The area here represented is one of rounded granite hills, the remains of the great highland that once occupied this part of New England.

In New York are three sheets, all on a scale of 1:62,500, and with a contour interval of 20 feet. One of them, Oyster Bay, is situated upon the north shore of Long Island, and represents a region of petty glacial hills, a part of the terminal moraine of the continental glacier; the other two, Moravia and Auburn, are in the central part of the State. The former shows a plateau-like region, deeply cut by stream channels; the latter includes parts of Cayuga and Owasco lakes. In the northern part are numerous beautifully elongated drumlins, whose axes trend a little east of south.

The Oceana sheet represents an area in the Cumberland plateau, in the southern part of West Virginia. It is a maturely dissected region, being composed of sharp, narrow ridges and narrow gorges, forming a very complete drainage system. Formerly base-levelled as a plateau, whose surface consisted of a hard bed of carboniferous limestone, it was subsequently tilted to the northwest, and erosion has produced the present form of the surface. At the time it was base-levelled, the streams became extremely crooked and winding, and in the subsequent erosion their character has been preserved, the crooks and turns being deeply incised. The scale of this sheet is 1:125,000, with a contour interval of 100 feet.

Upon the upper peninsula of Michigan are three sheets, Witbeck, Iron River and Sagole, all upon a scale of 1:62,500, with a contour interval of 20 feet. The areas here represented underlay the great glacier, whose former presence is betrayed by the irregularities in the courses of the streams, numerous lakes, many of which are without outlets, irregular depressions and elevations, drumlins, moraines and marshes.

In South Dakota is one sheet, DeSmet, on a scale of 1:125,000, with a contour interval of 20 feet, which also represents a glaciated region, although the surface is by no means as irregular as in the Michigan sheets, above mentioned.

In Nebraska is the David City sheet, on a scale of 1:125,000, with a contour interval of 20 feet. Within this area Loup River, coming from the north, joins the Platte. The former, although a plains stream, carries considerable water, while the Platte, heading in the mountains of Colorado and Wyoming, is, at the point of junction, practically dry. The bottom land of the Platte here is very broad, and is bordered upon the south by a line of bluffs a hundred feet or more in height, and almost from the edge of these bluffs the drainage turns southward through Blue River to the Kansas.

In Montana is one sheet, Boulder, on a scale of 1:125,000, with a contour interval of 100 feet. This represents a mining region in the Rocky Mountains near Helena.

In California is one sheet, Haywards, representing the southeastern part of San Francisco Bay, with a bit of the coast ranges east of it.

The U. S. Geological Survey has issued a map of Indian Territory, upon a scale of 1:500,000. This map is a compilation from the plats, resulting from the subdivisional surveys which have been executed by this organization during the past three years. A comparison of this map with that issued by the Land Office some years ago, which was compiled from exploration, railroad surveys, etc., shows the extent of errors which are possible even in well settled regions. Great areas are five and six miles out of place. Indeed, it is surprising that such gross errors, affecting large areas of country, should not have been detected and corrected even by the railroad surveys.

This edition of the map makes no attempt at representing the relief, which will doubtless be added in later issues.